

U.S. EPA CERCLA SECTION 104(e) INFORMATION REQUEST QUESTIONS and RESPONSES

Site: Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site (LDW), Seattle WA

DERP-FUDS Site Number F10WA024200, Argo Redistribution Center, Seattle, WA

1. Respondent Information

a. Provide the full legal name and mailing address of the Respondent.

Colonel Anthony Wright
District Commander, USACE Seattle District
P.O. Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124

b. For each person answering these questions on behalf of Respondent, provide:

- i. full name;**
- ii. title;**
- iii. business address; and**
- iv. business telephone number and FAX machine number.**

The information requested for each of the persons responsible for answering these questions is provided under separate cover for personal privacy purposes.

c. If Respondent wishes to designate an individual for all future correspondence concerning this matter, please indicate here by providing that individual's name, address, telephone number and fax number.

Colonel Anthony Wright
District Commander, USACE Seattle District
P.O. Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124
Tel: 206-764-3690
Fax: 206-764-6544

d. State the dates during which the Department of Defense (DOD) held any property interests at or within one-half mile of the FUDS.

Between 1942 and 1947, DOD held property interests at, or within, one-half mile of the FUDS. The particular dates associated with the property interests are as shown on the spreadsheet included on the CD provided with this response. To the extent available, documents showing when the site was acquired and disposed of are hyperlinked to the spreadsheet.

See the following document available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

e. State the dates during which DOD conducted any activities at or within one-half mile of the FUDS.

Between 1942 and 1947, DOD may have conducted activities at or within one-half mile of the FUDS. To the extent available, dates during which DOD conducted any activities on this site are as shown on the spreadsheet included on the CD provided with this response. Any documents showing such activity are hyperlinked to the spreadsheet.

See the following document available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

f. Describe the nature of DOD's activities at the FUDS or within one-half mile of the FUDS.

The nature of DOD's activities at, or within, one-half mile of the FUDS was use of the site as an open storage yard and redistribution center. Additionally, railroad tracks ran through the site, which were presumably used to transport materials and supplies.

See the following document available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

g. In relation to your answer to the previous question, identify all materials used or created by DOD's activities at the FUDS, including raw materials, commercial products, building debris, and other wastes.

In relation to our answer to 1.f., above, all known materials used or created by DOD's activities at the FUDS consists of the following improvements to the site: construction of a carpenter shop with an oil-fired space heater, a guard tower, and water and electrical systems (*i.e.*, 11 light poles, 9000 ft wire #8 WP, 2000 ft wire #6 WP, 38 18-inch floodlights, and 150 ft 1-inch main pipe and 1 fire hydrant, respectively).

See the following documents available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.
- War Department Permit, dated January 14, 1947, re: outgrant to DOI to enter, occupy and use the premises at Argo Yards Military Reservation.

2. Site Activities and Interests

- a. Provide all documents in your possession or accessible to you regarding the ownership of the FUDS before, during and after DOD control, including, but not limited to, copies of deeds, sales contracts, leases, blueprints, “as-builts” and photographs.**

Any documents showing ownership or other real estate interests by DOD for the FUDS are hyperlinked to the spreadsheet included on the CD provided with this response.

- b. Provide all documents in your possession or accessible to you regarding environmental conditions at the FUDS before, during and after the relevant time period (see Definitions). “Environmental conditions” includes information relating to soil, sediment, water (ground and surface), and air quality. This may include, but not be limited to:**

- i. Any spill, leak, release or discharge of a hazardous substance, waste, or material at or near the FUDS;**

There is no documentation in the possession and control of the DOD regarding any spill, leak, release or discharge of a hazardous substance, waste, or material at or near the FUDS.

- ii. Occurrences of violations, citations, deficiencies, and/or accidents concerning the FUDS;**

There is no documentation in the possession and control of the DOD indicating occurrences of violations, citations, deficiencies, and /or accidents concerning the FUDS.

- iii. Remediation or removal of contaminated soils, sediments, or other media at the FUDS; and**

There is no documentation in the possession and control of the DOD indicating the remediation or removal of contaminated soils, sediments, or other media at the FUDS.

- iv. Investigations, inspections, sampling, and any associated reports regarding the FUDS and surrounding area.**

Documentation in the possession and control of the DOD regarding investigations, inspections, sampling and any associated reports regarding the FUDS and surrounding area is limited to summary sheet for a site visit conducted on November 9, 1990, by Lori Morris and Kristen Nielsen of

Shapiro and Associates, Inc., under contract to the Seattle District, US Army Corps of Engineers. During this site visit it was determined that the site could be reached via any of the streets on its perimeter. The site was found to be developed with a warehouse and related facilities. It was also determined at this visit that there was no evidence of former military use.

See the following document available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

- c. **Provide information on the condition of the FUDS when purchased or at the beginning of the relevant time period; describe the source, volume, and content of any fill material used during the construction of the buildings, including waterside structures such as seawalls, wharves, docks or marine ways. Additionally, describe any subsequent improvements, alteration, demolitions or additions to the physical structures or the property itself.**

Limited information is available on the condition of the FUDS when purchased or at the beginning of the relevant time period. No description of the source, volume, and content of any fill material used during the construction of the buildings, including waterside structures such as seawalls, wharves, docks, or marine ways was found relevant or available. Subsequent improvements, alterations, demolitions or additions to the physical structures or the property itself include: construction of a carpenter shop (30' by 40') with an oil-fired space heater, a guard tower (20' high with a 10' by 10' platform and a 4' by 4' guard house on top), an electrical system (11 light poles, 9000 ft wire #8 WP, 2000 ft wire #6 WP, 38 18-inch flood lights), and a water system installed by DOD (150 ft 1-inch main pipe, and 1 fire hydrant).

See the following documents available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.
- War Department Permit, dated January 14, 1947, re: outgrant to DOI to enter, occupy and use the premises at Argo Yards Military Reservation.

- d. **Provide a brief summary of the activities conducted at the FUDS while under DOD's ownership or operation. Include any diagrams or charts of the activities conducted.**

While under DOD's ownership or operation, the FUDS was used as an open storage yard and redistribution center and contained the following structures/improvements: a carpenter shop with an oil-fired space heater, a guard tower, and water and electrical systems. Railroad tracks which ran

through the site were presumably used to transport materials and supplies. Due to the limited information and knowledge available regarding the extent of activities conducted at the FUDS, creation of a diagram or chart was not possible.

See the following document available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

- e. **Provide all documents pertaining to sale, transfer, delivery, or disposal, of any hazardous substances, scrap materials, and/or recyclable materials at or to the FUDS.**

There is no documentation in the possession and control of the DOD pertaining to sale, transfer, delivery, or disposal, of any hazardous substances, scrap materials, and/or recyclable materials at or near to the FUDS.

- f. **Provide all information or electrical equipment used at the FUDS, including transformers or other electrical equipment that may have contained polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).**

Documentation regarding electrical equipment used at the FUDS suggests that no transformers or other electrical equipment that may have contained polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were present on the site. The extent of electrical system information for the site is limited to: 11 light poles, 9000 ft wire #8 WP, 2000 ft wire #6 WP, and 38 18-inch flood lights, all of which are unlikely to have contained PCBs.

See the following documents available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.
- War Department Permit, dated January 14, 1947, re: outgrant to DOI to enter, occupy and use the premises at Argo Yards Military Reservation.

- g. **Provide information on the type(s) of oils or fluids used for lubrication of machinery or other industrial purposes, and any other chemicals or products which are or may contain hazardous substances which are or were used at the FUDS for facility operations.**

There is no documentation in the possession and control of the DOD on the type(s) of oils or fluids used for lubrication of machinery or other industrial purposes at the FUDS for facility operations. There is also no available documentation of any other chemicals or products used which may have contained hazardous substances at the FUDS for facility operations. Although an oil-fired space heater was used on the site, there is no information available

regarding the type or storage method employed for any oil required for the space heater.

See the following document available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

- h. Provide any site drainage descriptions, plans or maps that include information about storm drainage which includes, but is not limited to, above or below surface piping, ditches, catch basins, manholes, and treatment/detention or related structures including outfalls. If available, also include information about connections to sanitary sewer.**

There is no documentation in the possession and control of the DOD regarding site drainage descriptions, storm drainage, or sanitary sewer connections at the FUDS. Available information regarding water systems on the site only indicates that DOD installed a 150 ft 1-inch water main on the site.

See the following documents available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.
- War Department Permit, dated January 14, 1947, re: outgrant to DOI to enter, occupy and use the premises at Argo Yards Military Reservation.

- i. With respect to past site activities, please provide copies of any stormwater or drainage studies, including data from sampling, conducted at the FUDS. Also provide copies of any Stormwater Pollution Prevention or Maintenance Plans or Spill Plans that may have been developed for operations or activities at the FUDS.**

There is no documentation in the possession and control of the DOD to indicate that any past site activities involved the conduction of any stormwater or drainage studies, or any data collection from sampling, at the FUDS. There also is no available documentation indicating the existence of any Stormwater Pollution Prevention or Maintenance Plans or Spill Plans that may have been developed for operations or activities at the FUDS.

3. Information About Others

- a. Describe any business relationship DOD may have had regarding the FUDS, or operations thereon, with others.**

Known business relationships which DOD had regarding the FUDS, or operations thereon, with others, includes: an out-lease to Alaska Railroad, for a term from January to August 1947, to occupy and use the premises,

including the right of ingress and egress over the railroad tracks at the FUDS for storing railroad cars. The out-lease also covered the previously described improvements on the site.

See the following document available on the CD provided with this response:

- Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, USACE, North Pacific Division, re: DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

- b. Provide the names and last known address of any tenants or lessees, the dates of their tenancy and a brief description of the activities they conducted while operation on the FUDS.**

Names and addresses, if disclosed by the documents in the possession and control of DOD, of any tenants or lessees of the site, and the dates of their tenancy and activities conducted are as shown in the Outgrant columns of the spreadsheet for the FUDS that has been included on the CD provided with this Response.

- c. If not already provided, identify and provide a last known address or phone number for all persons, including current and former employees or agents, other than attorneys, who have knowledge or information about the generation, use, purchase, storage, disposal, placement, or other handling of hazardous materials at, or transportation of hazardous materials to or from, the FUDS.**

DOD is not aware of any persons, including current and former employees or agents, whom have knowledge or information about the generation, use, purchase, storage, disposal, placement, or other handling of hazardous materials at, or transportation of hazardous material to or from, the FUDS. Furthermore, records discovered in this search did not identify the names, or addresses, of any such persons.

4. Compliance with This Request

- a. Describe all sources reviewed or consulted in responding to this request, including, but not limited to:**
- i. name and current job title of all individuals consulted;**
 - ii. location(s) where all documents reviewed are currently kept.**

The sources reviewed or consulted in responding to this request include the following:

USACE Northwestern Division (Omaha, NE):

- DERP-FUDS Program Files;

USACE Kansas City District:

- **DERP-FUDS Program Files**

USACE Northwestern Division (Portland, OR) (formerly, North Pacific Division):

- **DERP-FUDS Program Files**

USACE Seattle District:

- **Real Estate Division;**
- **Environmental Management Branch;**
- **Navigation Branch**

**Federal Records Center
Iron Mountain
19826 Russell Road
Kent, WA 98032**

**Jonathan A. Maas
Senior Environmental Employment Program (SEE) in PRP Search
MS ECL-111, Site Clean Up Unit 3
U.S. EPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Ave, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101**

INDEX of DOCUMENTS REFERENCED in RESPONSE

**U.S. EPA CERCLA SECTION 104(e) INFORMATION REQUEST
QUESTIONS and RESPONSES**

Site: Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site (LDW), Seattle WA

DERP-FUDS Site Number F10WA024200, Argo Redistribution Center, Seattle, WA

In order of appearance in Response:

Memorandum, dated May 9, 1991, from USACE, North Pacific Division, Portland, OR, to USACE, Seattle District, regarding DERP-FUDS INPR for Site F10WA024200.

War Department Permit, dated January 14, 1947, regarding outgrant to DOI, Alaska Railroad, to enter, occupy and use the premises at Argo Yards Military Reservation.